

Research Proposals for
May 20, 2004 Board Meeting

1. "Analysis of Building Characteristics and Indoor Environmental Quality in California Classrooms," Westat, \$116,780, Proposal No. 2550-239.

The Air Resources Board (ARB) and the Department of Health Services (DHS) recently conducted a study to assess environmental health conditions in California's portable classrooms, as required by California Health and Safety Code Section 39619.6. A great deal of new data were collected for the Portable Classrooms Study (PCS). However, detailed analyses of some of these data were not funded in the initial study. The objective of this project is to further analyze variables on ventilation and other energy-related factors and examine their relationship to indoor air quality and other environmental characteristics in classrooms. In addition, the association of pollutant levels with a school's socioeconomic indicators will be examined. The ARB needs further analyses of the PCS data to help refine specific recommendations to schools and guide further activities for preventing indoor environmental quality (IEQ) problems in schools. The California Energy Commission (CEC) is interested in further analysis of the PCS data in order to obtain information needed for revising their building energy efficiency standards for schools; the CEC is providing the major funding for this effort. The results of this study will be used to improve energy efficiency and IEQ in California schools through revised building standards and improved guidance to California schools.